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# HOW TO LIVE THROUGH A FIRE IN YOUR BUILDING

## A SURVIVOR'S GUIDE

### DID YOU KNOW....?

- Survival In This Building May Well Depend On Your Decisions.
- You May Have To Survive On Your Own For 10, 20, Or Even 30 Minutes Before Help Can Get To You.
- One Wrong Decision During That Time Could Cause The Deaths Of You And Your Family.
- The Simple Rules Inside This Brochure Can Help You Make The Right Decisions That Lead To SURVIVAL!

FROM:

State Of Illinois

High Rise Fire Commission

Senator

William A. Marovitz

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# THE STEPS TO SURVIVAL

- 1** Study The Survival Rules In This Brochure.
- 2** Complete The Pre-Fire Checklist And Diagram Your Escape Routes.
- 3** Have Every Member Of Your Household Learn The Survival Rules And Know The Escape Routes.
- 4** Keep The Survivor's Guide, And Review It With All Members Of Your Household On A Regular Basis.



## IF THE FIRE STARTS IN YOUR ROOM OR APARTMENT

### SURVIVAL RULES

- Get Out Fast!
- Be Sure To Close The Door.
- Don't Panic - Stay Calm.  
(Avoid Panic By Being Prepared.)
- Know Where The Closest And 2nd Closest Exits Are.
- Don't Use Elevators.
- Call The Fire Department When You're Safe.



## WHEN THERE IS NO WAY OUT

### SURVIVAL RULES

- Seal Doors And Ducts.
- Use Water To Dampen Seals.
- If The Room Is Full Of Smoke And A Window Can Be Opened, Then Open The Window And Ventilate The Room.
- Stay Down Low And Cover Your Mouth And Nose.
- Call The Fire Department And Let Them Know Where You Are.
- Wait, Keep Calm, And Don't Panic.
- Use The Bathroom Exhaust Fan To Help Ventilate Your Rooms.
- DON'T JUMP! Wait For Help.

## IF THE FIRE ISN'T IN YOUR ROOM OR APARTMENT

### SURVIVAL RULES

- Check Before Leaving The Safety Of Your Room.
  - If You See Smoke Curling Under The Door, Do Not Open It.
  - Feel The Door For Heat. (Top of the Door.)
  - Brace Yourself Before Opening The Door — Plant One Foot Firmly Forward 5 Inches From The Door, Brace The Other Foot To Maintain Balance, And Put One Shoulder Against The Door.
  - Check The Hallway For Smoke.
- If The Corridor Is Clear, Get Out At Once.
- If There Is Smoke In The Corridor, Close The Door And Stay In Your Room. Call The Fire Department And Let Them Know Where You Are.
- If There Is Light Smoke In The Corridor And You Must Leave Your Room, Crawl Under The Light Smoke.
- Put A Damp Cloth Over Your Mouth And Nose.
- Don't Forget Your Room Key.
- When Using Stairways, Walk Fast And Hold Onto The Railings.
- Only Help Those Who Can't Help Themselves (Infants, Bedridden Invalids). Let Professionals Do The Saving And You Concentrate On You And Yours.
- Don't Worry About Animals — They Are Survivors.



Printed by authority of the State of Illinois  
Legislative Council Service Unit Order 842004  
August 1984 - 100,000 copies





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# ESCAPE ROUTES

Diagram Two Escape Routes That  
Don't Involve Elevators.

# PRE-FIRE CHECKLIST

- ☐ Have A Survival Plan.
- ☐ Practice Your Survival Plan.
- ☐ Check Your Smoke Alarms.
- ☐ Check Electrical Devices And Outlets.
- ☐ Check Storage Of Flammable Liquids.
- ☐ Have A Household Fire Extinguisher.
- ☐ Have A List Of Emergency Numbers By The Phone.
- ☐ Designate A Meeting Place Outside Your Building.
- ☐ Check Your Flashlights
- ☐ Have Your Door Key Readily Available.

# THE SIX DON'TS

- Don't** Try To Run Through The Fire.
- Don't** Try To Save Others.
- Don't** Try To Save Pets.
- Don't** Try To Save Valuables.
- Don't** Worry How You Look.
- Don't** Go Back In !

For Additional Copies ....

CONTACT:

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For More Information ....

**Call Your Local  
Fire Department**



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